

Remark

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1, 2, 12, 23, 27, 30 and 34 have been amended. Claims 7, 19, 29 and 36 have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-6, 8-18, 20-28, 30-35, 37-40 are present for examination.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that claims 17, 10-11, 19-21, 25, 29 and 35-36 would be allowable, if amended to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In the amendments above, the limitations of Claim 7 have been incorporated into Claim 1, the base claim. There are no intervening claims. Similarly, the limitations of Claim 19 have been incorporated into Claim 12. The limitations of Claim 29 have been incorporated into Claim 23. The limitations of Claim 29 have been incorporated into Claim 27. The limitations of Claim 29 have been incorporated into Claim 30. The limitations of Claim 36 have been incorporated into Claim 34.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome by the amendment and remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension. Charge our Deposit Account.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date:

5/5/5



Gordon R. Lindeen III
Reg. No. 33,192

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
7th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(303) 740-1980

Attorney Docket No. 015685.P107
Application No. 09/996,633